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For Immediate Release

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**ANDERTON SENTENCED TO FOUR YEARS IN PRISON FOR
IDENTITY THEFT SCHEMES**

PHILADELPHIA - Edward Anderton, 26, of Everett, Washington, was sentenced today to 48 months in prison for his role in an extensive identity theft and fraud scheme, announced Acting United States Attorney Laurie Magid. Anderton pleaded guilty on June 2, 2008, to conspiracy, aggravated identity theft, access device fraud, bank fraud, and money laundering. Between November 2006 and November 30, 2007, Anderton and co-defendant Jocelyn Kirsch stole identity information, credit cards, and credit card account information from numerous victims, including friends, co-workers, neighbors, fellow students, bar patrons, and others, and used those stolen materials extensively to buy merchandise and obtain cash. In addition to the prison term, United States District Court Judge Eduardo Robreno ordered Anderton to pay \$101,033 restitution, and to complete five years of supervised release. He ordered Anderton to report to prison within 45 days. Kirsch was sentenced on October 17th to 60 months in prison.

Over the course of a year, defendants Anderton and Kirsch used the identities of more than 16 victims in numerous illegal transactions to obtain more than \$119,000 in cash and merchandise. They also made failed attempts to obtain more than \$122,000 in additional cash and merchandise. The defendants used the proceeds of their fraud scheme to help fund their lavish lifestyle that included trips to Florida, Paris, Hawaii, Montreal, and the Turks and Caicos Islands in the Caribbean.

The case was investigated by the Federal Bureau of Investigation, the United States Postal Inspection Service, the Philadelphia Police Department, The University of Pennsylvania Police Department, and the Philadelphia District Attorney's Office. It was prosecuted by Assistant United States Attorney Louis D. Lappen and Special Assistant United States Attorney Lisa Caulfield.

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